AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 2, 4, 20, 22, 26, 35, and 39 through 42 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8 through 19, 23, 24, 33, 34, 36 through 38, and 43, and add Claims 44 through 46 to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~network~~ apparatus comprising:

a selective spoofing ~~element~~ unit that ~~(a) determines what application is using a transport level connection to said network apparatus and (b)~~ decides whether or not to perform transport level spoofing on ~~the~~ a transport level connection to said apparatus, ~~in accordance with the determination of what application is using the transport level connection to said network apparatus~~ wherein said selective spoofing unit decides to perform transport level spoofing in accordance with a determination that the transport level connection is for use in sending FTP data, and said selective spoofing unit decides not to perform transport level spoofing in accordance with a determination that the transport level connection is for use in sending FTP control messages.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~network~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein said spoofing ~~element~~ unit assigns spoofing resources, including buffer space and control blocks, to the spoofed transport level connection.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A ~~network~~ apparatus comprising:

a selective spoofing ~~element~~ unit that decides whether or not to perform transport level spoofing on a transport level connection to said ~~network~~ apparatus in accordance with ~~a spoofing rule in a spoofing profile~~ plural spoofing rules, the rules being executed in an order specified by an operator of said apparatus.

6. (Currently Amended) A ~~network~~ apparatus comprising:

a selective spoofing ~~element~~ unit that decides whether or not to perform transport level spoofing on a transport level connection to said ~~network~~ apparatus in accordance with ~~at least one operator selectable criterion~~ a comparison between a TCP port number of a packet and a predetermined TCP port number, wherein the predetermined TCP port number is configurable in accordance with user input.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~network~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein the transport level connection uses one of the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) and the User Datagram Protocol (UDP).

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~network~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein said ~~network~~ apparatus is connected to another apparatus via a backbone connection.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~network~~ apparatus of claim 9, wherein the backbone connection is via a wireless link.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~network~~ apparatus of claim 10, wherein the wireless link has high latency and high error rate.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~network~~ apparatus of claim 10, wherein the wireless link is a satellite link.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~network~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein said ~~network~~ apparatus is a component of a network gateway.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~network~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein said ~~network~~ apparatus is a component of a host.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~network~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein said ~~network~~ apparatus is a component of a hub.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~network~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein said ~~network~~ apparatus is a component of a switch.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~network~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein said ~~network~~ apparatus is a component of a VSAT.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~network~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein said ~~network~~ apparatus is a component of a router.

19. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

~~selectively~~ performing transport level spoofing on a transport level connection ~~in accordance with a determination as to what application is using the transport level connection~~ for use in sending FTP data, but not performing transport level spoofing on a transport level connection for use in sending FTP control messages.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein said spoofing step assigns spoofing resources, including buffer space and control blocks, to a spoofed transport level connection.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

selectively performing transport level spoofing on a transport level connection in accordance with ~~a spoofing rule in a spoofing profile~~ plural spoofing rules, the rules being executed in an order specified by an operator of an apparatus used to effect said method.

24. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

selectively performing transport level spoofing on a transport level connection in accordance with ~~a at least one operator selectable criterion~~ a comparison between a TCP port number of a packet and a predetermined TCP port number, wherein the predetermined TCP port number is configurable in accordance with user input.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said method is performed in a network gateway.

28. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said method is performed in a host.

29. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said method is performed in a hub.

30. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said method is performed in a switch.

31. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said method is performed in a VSAT.

32. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said method is performed in a router.

33. (Currently Amended) A ~~network~~ apparatus comprising:

a selective spoofing ~~element~~ unit that decides whether or not to perform transport level spoofing on a transport level connection to said ~~network~~ apparatus in accordance with at least one ~~field~~ of (a) an IP source address in a packet received by said ~~network~~ apparatus and (b) an IP differentiated services field of a packet received by said apparatus.

34. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~Claim~~ claim 33, wherein the ~~at least one field comprises a~~ decision is made in accordance with an IP destination ~~network level~~ address and at least one of (a) and (b).

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~Claim~~ claim 33, wherein the ~~at least one field comprises a~~ decision is made in accordance with a destination port number and at least one of (a) and (b).

37. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~Claim~~ claim 33, wherein the ~~at least one field comprises a~~ decision is made in accordance with a source port number and at least one of (a) and (b).

38. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~Claim~~ claim 33, wherein the ~~at least one field comprises a~~ decision is made in accordance with a transport level options field and at least one of (a) and (b).

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

selectively performing transport level spoofing on a transport level connection in accordance with at least one ~~field in an IP packet or TCP packet~~ of (a) an IP source address and (b) an IP differentiated services field.

44. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the transport level connection is a TCP connection.

45. (New) An apparatus according to claim 33, wherein the decision is made in accordance with (a).

46. (New) An apparatus according to claim 33, wherein the decision is made in accordance with (b).